

# LunchPrepay.com Parent User Manual



Education Management Systems, Inc. 4110 Shipyard Blvd, Wilmington, NC 28403 <a href="https://www.mealsplus.com">www.mealsplus.com</a> or (800) 541-8999

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## 1.0 Welcome to LunchPrepay.com

#### 1.1 Welcome



#### 1.2 New User

To set up a new user account, click on **New User** at the top left of the www.LunchPrepay.com **Welcome** page.

#### Registration

Thank you for registering with LunchPrepay.com.

LunchPrepay offers great convenience and the following benefits:

- You get quick and easy access to your student's meal account 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- The ability to pay for multiple students' accounts with one single payment.
- The ability to look-up your students' account balance, any time, any place the internet is available.
- The ability to see 90 calendar days of purchases and payments.
- Automated notification, via e-mail, when your student's account balance falls below an amount you have set.
- Peace of mind, knowing that the money is being used for good nutrition.

The LunchPrepay.com website will guide you through the easy steps of registration. Please make sure you have acquired the following information before beginning.

- Verify that your school district is participating in LunchPrepay.com. If you are unsure click on <u>Participating Schools</u> to find your school district.
- You must know your student's Identification Number. If you do not know your student's identification number, you will need to contact your school district for this information.

This is an advertisement and commercial free site: no banners, no pop ups and no sharing of e-mails. There may be an registration fee; the amount of this fee will depend on the contracted arrangements between us and your school district. If you choose to make an online payment there may be a processing fee added to the payment made.

Start Registration

Create New User Begin by selecting a participating state where your child is currently enrolled: State: North Carolina 🔻 District: New Hanover County Schools E-mail: user@mealsplus.com User Name: Username Password: ••••• Confirm Password: •••••• 910-123-1234 Phone: First Name: FirstName Last Name: LastName Address1: 4110 Shipyard Blve Address2: ▼ 28403 City: Wilmington State/Zip: NC User Type: 

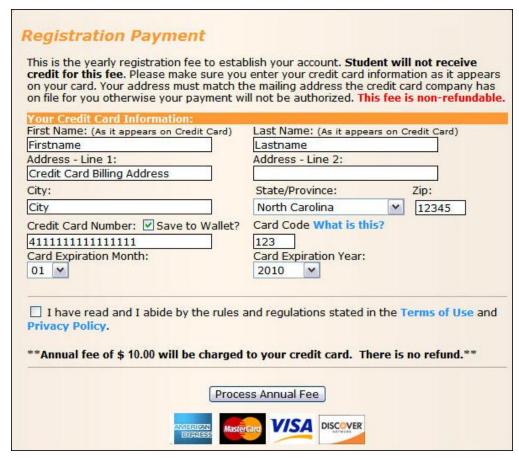
Premium 

Basic Meal History View Balances 1 Low Balance Notification Online Payment Registration Fee \$10.00 Free Transaction Fee \$1.95 \$1.95 I have read and I abide by the rules and regulations stated in the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Registration fees are non-refundable. Register Me

Click Start Registration. The Create New User page appears.

- Select a state from the State dropdown list.
- Select the school district where the students are enrolled from the **District** dropdown list.
  - Once the district is selected, the chart showing fees for that district will display.
- Enter a user name for your LunchPrepay parent account in the **User Name** text field.
- Enter an email address in the E-Mail text field. This is required and will be used only for LunchPrepay correspondence.
- Create a password by entering it in the Password test field. A password is required for security. Re-enter the password in the Confirm Password text field to ensure the correct password has been created.

- Enter parent's name, address and phone number in the Name, Address, Phone
  text fields. This is the contact information in case we need to reach a parent and
  email is not available. First and Last name are required. Address and phone are
  requested but not required.
- Select Premium or Basic from the User Type field. The chart shows the features and costs.
  - Basic users can upgrade to Premium at any time.
- Check the **Terms of Use** box to agree to Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.
- Click Register Me. If an annual fee applies, the payment screen will appear. Enter the credit card information.

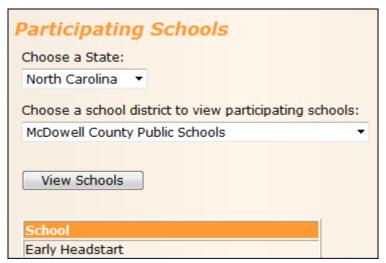


- The information you enter here must match the credit card's billing information.
- If Save to Wallet is checked, it will save your credit card information to Manage Wallet so the information will not need to be re-entered. (This feature is optional.)

 After the Registration is done, the next step is to Add Students under Manage Students.

#### 1.3 Participating Schools

Participating Schools allows the user to verify that LunchPrePay is available for their child's school before registering.



- Select a state from the **Choose a State** dropdown list.
- Select a district from the Choose a school district to view participation schools dropdown list.
- Click View Schools.
- The participating schools will display.

#### 1.4 Terms of Use

Terms of Use displays the terms and conditions set forth below that apply to your use of the LunchPrepay.com™ website, call center, payment service and related facilities.

Please read for registering.

## 1.5 Privacy Policy

Education Management Systems, Inc. takes your privacy seriously. Please read this section to learn more about our privacy policy.

#### 1.6 About Us

About Us provides a brief description of Educational Management Systems, as well as the company's vision.

#### About Us

Education Management Systems is dedicated to providing quality software and services for the management of the K-12 Education environment. We provide cafeteria management software along with financial packages developed specifically to meet the needs of today's school administrators and business managers. We are totally committed to this environment, and only it, and will always strive to provide product updates that lead to the highest quality of software possible.

- Over 17 years of providing solutions
- Over 25 years of education experience
- Excellent support from our Help Desk staff

#### **Our Contact Information:**

Education Management Systems, Inc. 4110 Shipyard Boulevard Wilmington NC 28403

Email: ContactUs@LunchPrepay.com

#### 1.7 Contact Us

If a logged-in user submits a message from Contact Us, an email will be sent directly to the District Administrator.

The email text will include the User Name and Student Names and Numbers.



#### 1.8 Help/FAQ

This information can also be viewed from the LunchPrepay website by clicking Help/FAQ.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What is my child's Student Number?

The **Student Number** is a unique number assigned by your school district office. (It is usually not the same as the 3 or 4-digit lunch number that is used in the cafeteria.) It is usually printed on report cards and correspondence that you receive from the school. Please contact your district office if you do not know what number to use.

#### Why are there fees for this service?

The fees cover the costs of maintaining the secure website and the fees that are charged to us for processing credit card payments. School districts usually do not have funds available for this type of expense.

Most websites use revenue from advertising and sales to maintain the website. There is no advertising on LunchPrepay.com, and we never sell your information to anyone, so fees are necessary to allow you the convenience of online payments.

Fees vary because some school districts may subsidize some of the costs for you.

#### What does the service cost?

The cost depends on the level of service (Premium or Basic) that you select and the school district that your students are in. When you select your school district during registration, it will show the fees that apply in that district. You will always be provided with the cost information before any payment is processed.

- For Premium membership, there is a one-time registration fee. This gives you
  access to your student's lunchroom balance and meal history, and offers e-mail
  notification when the account balance drops below a limit you have set. The fee
  varies per school district.
- With Basic membership, you can still make payments for meals and school fees
  online, but you will not be able to look up your student's balance or meal history,
  and you will not receive Low Balance notifications. The regular payment fees will
  apply but there is no registration fee. You can upgrade to premium service at
  any time if the service is available in your district.

When you make Payments, a percentage will be added to cover the cost of processing the credit card transaction. One online payment can be split among all of the students attached to your account, with no additional cost.

#### What does the processing fee cover?

The payment fee covers the fees that the credit card company charges for processing the transaction. In some areas, the fee is partially paid by the school district.

#### Do I have to pay a separate registration fee for each student?

No, one registration fee covers all the students in your family who attend school in the same district.

#### What does the registration fee include?

The registration fee gives you access to your student's lunchroom balance and meal history, and offers e-mail notification when the account balance drops below a limit you have set. It includes all the students in your family who attend school in the same district.

#### How long from the time I register as a New User can I make a lunch payment?

This process usually takes less than a day. Students must be verified before we can accept payments. This can usually be done instantly; however, in some cases it can take up to 24 hours. Once this process has completed, you can make payments directly to your student's account from www.LunchPrepay.com.

#### Why is the verification process necessary for lunch payments?

This is how we make sure that your payment is credited to the correct student's cafeteria account. We check for a match on the student's last and first name, school, and student Number. This can usually be done instantly; however, in some cases it may take up to 24 hours. Once a student has been verified, lunch payments are processed by a service that runs automatically throughout the day. Verification is not required for School Fees because they are handled individually at the district or school level.

• If it has been more than 24 hours, please contact your school district office and ask for the Student Nutrition Department. They will be able to assist you.

# How long does it take for the payment to show at my student's school? Generally, all lunch payments are applied within 24 hours.

# How do I know it is safe to enter my credit card information on www.LunchPrepay.com?

LunchPrepay.com has 128 Bit Encryption provided by Thawte. Thawte is the most trusted name in online shopping. All information submitted is protected by our secure server, which automatically encrypts your personal information so that it cannot be read while traveling over the Internet.

#### What do I do if I do not see all my students listed on the payment screen?

If all the students you have entered do not show up on the payment screen, it is possible the information you supplied could have been typed incorrectly. Please go to the **Manage Student** page and check the student's first and last name, school, and Student Number. Correct any errors and save your changes. This student's account will be available as soon it is verified with the school's information.

Why do I not see my district's name listed under Participating Schools?

If your district's name is not listed under the **Participating Schools** page, then they have not signed up with Education Management Systems, Inc. to participate in LunchPrepay.com. Please encourage them to contact us.

#### What if my student's school is not listed?

If your student's school is not listed in the dropdown box you will need to check with your school district directly. They will be able to tell you if the school will be added to our program.

#### How do I set up a low balance notification?

Go to **Manage Profile** and enter the Low Balance amount. Check **Send Notifications.** You will receive an e-mail when the balance drops below the amount you set. (You must have Premium service to use this feature.)

#### How do I find out what my student has been buying for lunch?

On your home page, click on **Meal History** next to the student's name. (You must have premium service to use this feature.)

#### How do I pay School Fees using LunchPrepay.com?

Log in to your LunchPrepay user account. It can be either **Premium** or **Basic.** You do not need to have any verified students to pay school fees. Click on School Fees to view a list of the items that can be paid online in your school district.

- Click Add to add an item to your shopping cart. You can enter multiple quantities
  if desired.
- Click **View Cart** to view the list of items. From the Shopping Cart you can attach student names to items.
- Click Make Payment to process your payment.

The school will be notified that the payment has been made. It will not be applied to your child's cafeteria account.

#### What if I forget my user name or password?

Click on **Forgot Login Info?** on the Login screen. Send us your registered e-mail address and we will send you a return e-mail with your information.

What if I can't remember what e-mail address I used or it is no longer available? Contact your school district administrator and they will assist you.

During the summer, why does my student's account show up as Not Verified? Over the summer months, the link between our website, LunchPrePay.com, and the school's cafeteria server is down. Most schools are out for summer break and the cafeteria staff and teachers have the summer off. We take this opportunity to update the website and add features.

Usually about a week before school starts, the cafeteria staff returns to work and LunchPrepay.com reconnects to the cafeteria servers.

- When this happens, you will need to login to your account, go to Manage
   Students and update your student's school. At that point your students will automatically be re-verified, as long as the Student Number still matches your district's records.
- If your student's Student Number changed over the summer, please go to the
   Manage Students page and update the Student Number and school accordingly.

# I know that my student should have meal history or money in their account, so why does the balance show N/A?

There are a couple of reasons that LunchPrePay.com displays balance as **N/A.** The most likely reason is the link between our website and the school's cafeteria server was broken during a nightly upload. When this occurs, we display **N/A** to avoid showing inaccurate information or because no information is available.

# What if I am currently using LunchPrepay.com and am transferring to/from another district that also uses LunchPrepay.com?

- Please send an email to ContactUs@LunchPrepay.com, requesting your school district to be changed. Please provide your username and email address when contacting us. The change will be made within 24 hours. PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT THE SAME AS CLICKING ON CONTACT US ON THE WEBSITE.
  - Any money left in your student's account cannot be transferred between districts. You must withdraw any outstanding balance from the school cafeteria you are leaving. Contact your student's cafeteria for more information.

# I have a question about one of the charges on my student's account. How do I dispute it?

If you suspect a cashier error or wonder if another student may be "borrowing" your student's account number, please contact your school district directly.

I'm getting some sort of error while trying to make a payment. What do I do?

It's possible that your credit card information that you've entered on the website does not match the information on file with your credit card company. Delete and re-enter your credit card information, paying particular attention to your address and name. If that does not work, send an email to ContactUs@LunchPrepay.com. PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT THE SAME AS CLICKING ON CONTACT US ON THE WEBSITE.

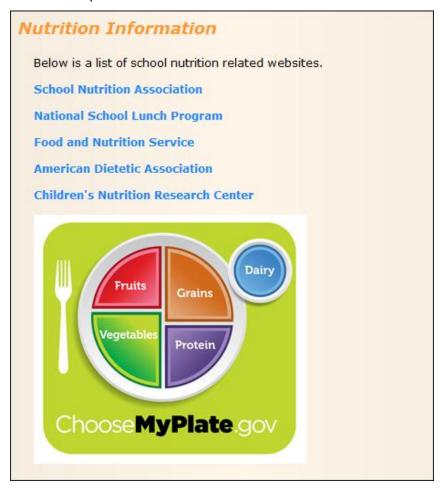
If I make payments in the cafeteria, will they appear on LunchPrepay.com? When you view Payment History, the page only displays the payments made through our website. Any payments made in the cafeteria will be shown on the Meal History page for each student.

# Why do I sometimes get an error while making a payment, and then find a charge on my credit card anyway?

All credit cards are processed through a third-party service that verifies all the credit card information and payment amount. The service verifies that your name, address, card number, and card code match exactly to what your credit card company has on file. If there is a mismatch, the service sends a message to us that the charge failed. Depending on your credit card company's policy the payment amount may still show as a Pending or a Temporary Hold against your account. Again, depending on your credit card company's policy, it may take a day or two for the temporary hold to be removed. Please note that LunchPrepay.com has no control over this process.

#### 1.9 Nutritional Information

Nutritional Information provides links to nutritional resources.



#### 1.10 Find us on Facebook

This provides instructions for accessing LunchPrePay.com on Facebook,



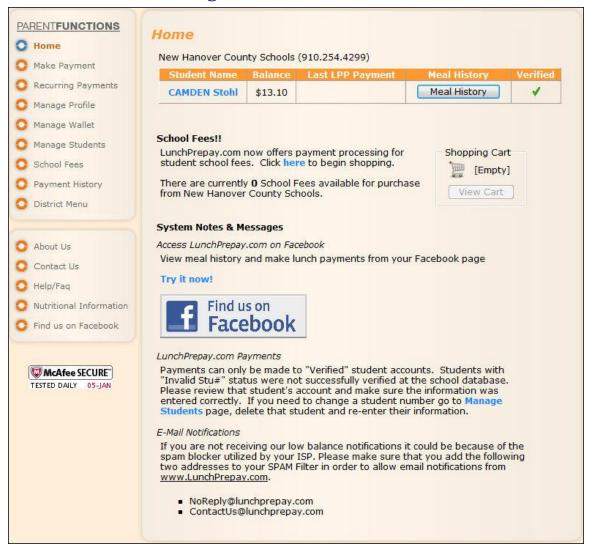
### 1.11 LunchPrePay.com Website

- Enter your district-level User Name and Password and click Sign In.
  - If you do not know your district-level User Name or password, please contact *Meals Plus* support.
  - If you are logged in as a district-level user, you can add or delete users under *Manage District: Manage District Logins*.



#### 2.0 Parent Functions

#### 2.1 Parent's Home Page



#### 2.2 Parent Functions

On the left side of the Parent's Home Page, there is a list of all the Parent Functions to navigate the site.



Click any link to go to that page.

#### 2.3 Student Information

The page will display a list of all their students, along with a green check if the student is verified.

- The last LunchPrepay Payment that was made for each student will display.
- Premium users will also see each student's Balance from Point of Sale, and a button for looking up Meal History.



• Click on Meal History to display a list of all the transactions for that student.



- A student must be *verified* before lunch payments can be made. If a student is
   Not Verified, a Meal History link will not display.
  - Click the student's name (in blue) to go to the Manage Students page.
  - Make any corrections needed for the student to be verified. (Please see Verifying Students.)

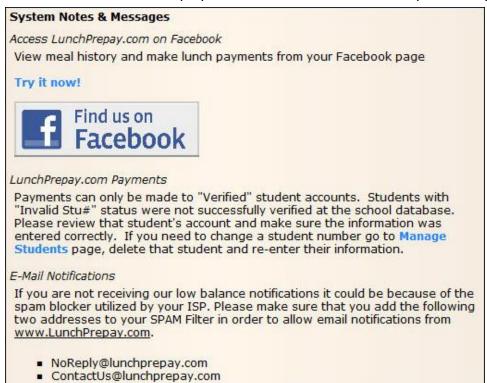
#### 2.4 School Fees

This section displays what school fees are applicable for the student's school and allows the parent to link to the School Fees page.

# School Fees!! LunchPrepay.com now offers payment processing for student school fees. Click here to begin shopping. There are currently **0** School Fees available for purchase from New Hanover County Schools. Shopping Cart [Empty] View Cart

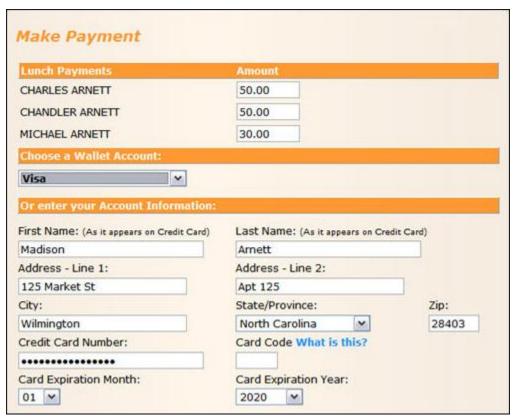
#### 2.5 System Notes and Messages

This section displays information on accessing LunchPrepay on Facebook and verification of students. It also displays an email notifications that the parent may have.



#### 2.6 Make Payment

Make Payment is where both lunch payments and school fee payments are made.



#### LUNCH PAYMENTS

• To make a lunch payment, enter the payment amount for each student at the top of the screen. (Only verified students will show here.)

#### CHOOSE A WALLET ACCOUNT

• If you select a **Wallet Account**, it will automatically fill in the information that was created in **Manage Wallet**.

#### OR ENTER YOUR ACCOUNT INFORMATION

If you do not want to use or have not set up a wallet account, you can enter the required information on this screen.

- Enter the **name**, **address** and **zip code** exactly as it appears on the credit card bill in the appropriate fields.
- Enter the Credit Card Number, Card Code, Expiration Month and Year.

At the bottom a summary of the payments you are making will display Lunch Payments, School Fees payments, all Service Charges and Total charges.

• You must check the **Terms of Use** box to process the payment.

Click View Cart if you would like to view or edit the school fees being paid.

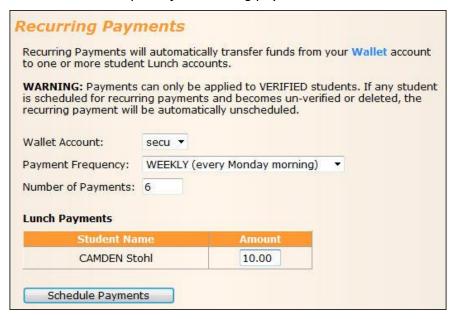


- Click Print Receipt to process the payment.
  - It will give a confirmation message and also send an email if Send Notification is checked in Manage Profile.
- Click Print Receipt on the confirmation screen if you would like a printed copy.
- You can also print a receipt for any transaction from the Payment History page.

#### 2.7 Recurring Payments

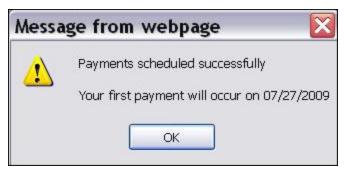
On this page you can schedule recurring payments on a monthly or weekly basis.

**NOTE:** A Wallet Account is required for recurring payments.



• Select the wallet account to be used from the **Wallet Account** dropdown list.

- Select Monthly (first of every month) or Weekly (every Monday morning) from the Frequency dropdown list.
- Enter the number of payments to be scheduled in the Number of Payments field.
- Click Schedule Payments to save.
  - You will get a message that tells you when the next payment will be made.



- The page refreshes. The Wallet Account, Payment Frequency and Next Payment will display with the parent's selections, as well as the Student Name and Amount of the recurring payment.
- The amount of payments remaining will display in the **Next Payment** field.



- The total amount charged to the parent for each payment will display below the student name.
- To delete a scheduled payment, go to the Recurring Payments page, and click
   Unschedule Payments

#### 2.8 Manage Profile

Manage Profile is where the parent can change their password, email address and other account information.

**NOTE:** This information is used ONLY for managing LunchPrepay accounts; it is never shared with anyone else.



• Fill in the text fields and click **Update** to save the information.

Why do we need name and address here since it is also listed with the credit card information?

Name and address are required here in case we have to contact the parent about their account. The credit card information is ONLY used for processing payments. It is not available to the District Administrator or LunchPrepay support staff.

#### 2.9 Manage Wallet

This feature is optional and allows the user to save credit card information so it does not need to be retyped every time a payment is made.

• On the Manage Wallet page, click Add New Account.



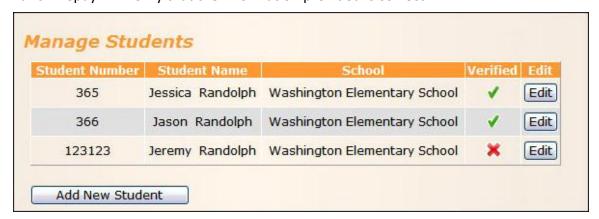
- Enter a Nickname for this card in the Nickname text field. This is used to make it
  easy to tell which card is being selected.
- Select the Account Type from the **Account Type** dropdown list.
- Enter the credit card billing name and address, card number and expiration date in the appropriate text fields.
  - Verify it matches the credit card's billing information.
- Click **Save** when completed.



- To set up another account, click Add New Account. Up to five accounts can be saved.
- To delete or change an account, click Edit.

#### 2.10 Manage Students

Parents can **Add** or **Delete** students or modify student information in **Manage Students.** LunchPrepay will verify that the information provided is correct.



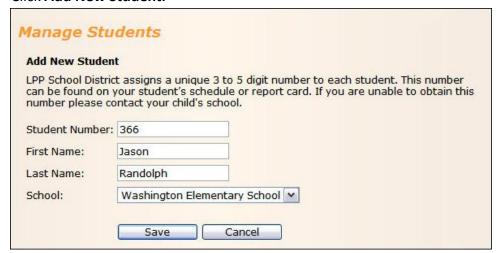


### Why do students need to be verified?

This is done to ensure that a *POS* account exists for this student and that the correct student gets credit for the payments.

#### **Add New Students**

Click Add New Student.



• Enter the **Student Number, First Name** and **Last Name** in the respective text fields and select the School from the **School** dropdown list.

 Student Number and the student's Last Name must match the school records exactly.

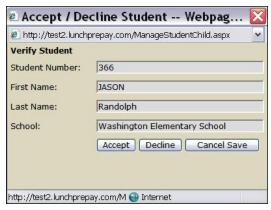


#### Why do we require an exact match on last name and student number?

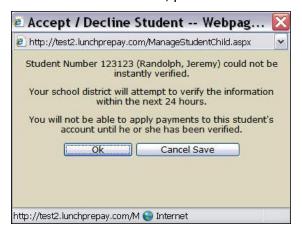
For security, we require that the parent provide at least these two pieces of information.

Then the verify feature can be used to fill in the first name and school. This makes the registration process easier if parents are not sure exactly how their child's first name is spelled in the school records, while still providing confidentiality.

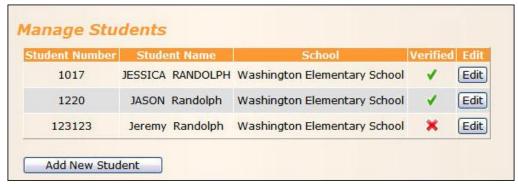
Click Save and it will search the database for a match.



- If a match is found, click **Accept.** It will be verified immediately and the account will be ready to accept payments.
- If no match is found, the student cannot be instantly verified.
  - Verify the Student Number and Last Name are entered correctly
  - LunchPrepay will automatically attempt to verify the student when the auto-updates run.
  - o If it is not verified with 24 hours, please refer to Verifying Students.



#### **Edit Existing Students**

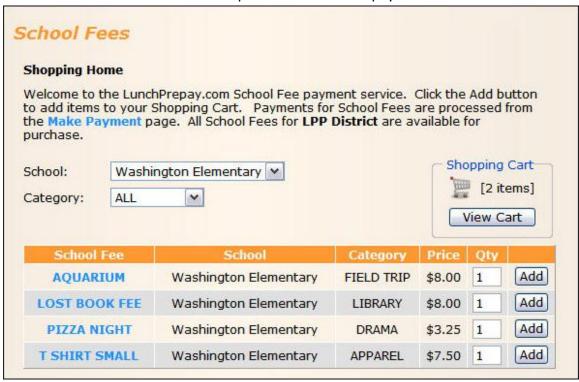


- Click the Edit button on that student's line.
- You will get a screen similar to the new student setup. Update the information and click **Save.**
- You can also **Delete** students on the Edit screen.
- If a Student Number needs to be changed on a student that is already verified, you will need to delete that student and add as a new student.

#### 2.11 School Fees - User Page

A parent can select school fees to be paid in LunchPrepay.com in School Fees. Any LunchPrepay user can make payments for school fees associated with any site.

• A Verified Student is NOT required for school fee payments.



- You can filter the list by selecting a **School** or **Category** from the dropdown lists.
- To purchase an item, click **Add.** You can purchase multiple quantities of the same item by adjusting the Qty.



• To view the selected item, click View Cart.



- On this screen, you can select a **Student** to associate with this **School Fee.** This is optional.
- You can also **Remove items** by checking the box. Click **Update Cart** to refresh the item list.
- Click **Continue Shopping** if you want to add more items.
- Click Make Payment to go to the payment screen.

## 2.12 Payment History - User Page

Payment History shows all the www.LunchPrepay.com payments made on this account since the beginning of the current school year.

Transaction Id	Confirmation Number	Transaction Date	Amount
71	126459789	08/12/2008	68.17
7/7	126459789	08/12/2008	10.30
67	126459789	08/06/2008	151.50
21	126459789	07/24/2008	6.83
20	126459789	07/24/2008	8.40
5	126459789	07/05/2008	9.99

• You can click on any **Transaction ID** to get a detailed report for that transaction.

#### 8/12/2008 2:40:08PM LunchPrepay.com Transaction Statement LPP Parent Parent UserName: Parent Name: Parent, Andy LPP District District: Transaction Id: 71 Transaction Date: 08/12/2008 Confirmation Number: 126459789 Payment Summary 50.00 Lunch Payments: Service Charge: 1.50 16.50 School Fee Payments: Service Charge: 0.17 Total: 68.17 Lunch Payment Student Description Amount Applied MICHAEL Randolph LUNCH PAYMENT 50.00 Ν 10.00 MICHAEL Randolph N/A SCHOOL FEE - FORT FISHER SCHOOL FEE - PIZZA NIGHT 3.25 N/A N/A N/A SCHOOL FEE - PIZZA NIGHT 3.25 N/A

- The report shows all the Lunch Payments and School Fees paid with this transaction.
  - o Lunch Payments will always be associated with a Student name.
  - If a Lunch Payment has not been applied to the student's cafeteria account yet, it will have N in the Applied column. It will be applied the next time the automatic system update runs.
  - School Fees will have a Student name if a student was selected in the Shopping Cart. They will always show N/A in the Applied column since they are not handled by the automatic update.

## 2.13 District Menu - User Page

This is a link to the School District's lunch calendar website.

• If the web address needs to be updated, please contact *Meals Plus* support.

## 2.14 Help/FAQ - User Page

Please see the FAQ here.

#### 2.15 Contact Us

Please See Contact Us here.

## **Index**

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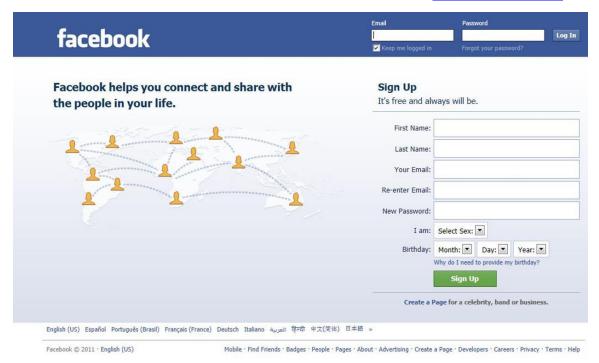
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# 3.0 Appendix A: How to Access Your LunchPrePay Account on Facebook

**NOTE:** If you do not already have a LunchPrePay account, you will have to register on www.lunchprepay.com first.

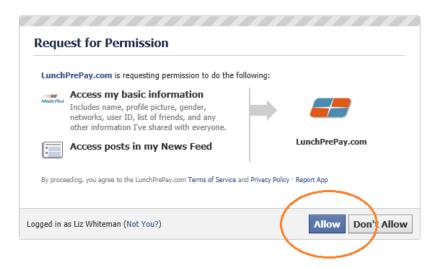
• Enter your log information for your Facebook Account at <a href="www.facebook.com">www.facebook.com</a>.



Enter LunchPrepay.com in the Search field to search for the LunchPrePay.com
 App



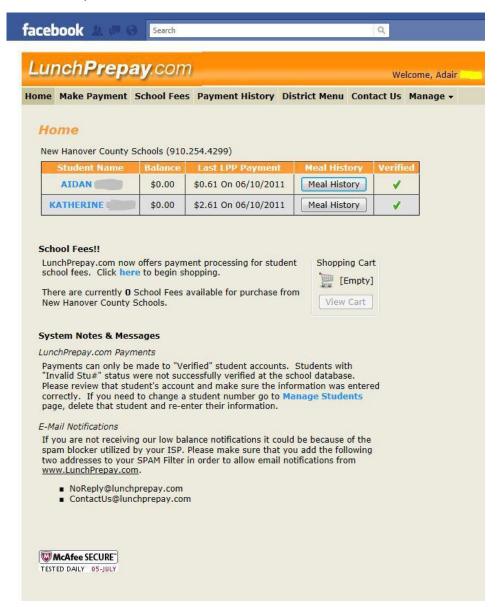
 When prompted, allow LunchPrePay access to your basic Facebook information (essentially your name and email address for validation purposes).



- LunchPrePay will launch within your Facebook Page. Enter your LunchPrePay
   User Name and Password in the text fields.
- Click Sign In.



 You now have access to all the same great information you are used to from LunchPrePay.com.



The Facebook App is easy to use and secure, so you can be sure your information is safe. For more information, contact your local school district.